

WELSH HEALTH CIRCULAR



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Issue Date: 17/09/2021

STATUS: COMPLIANCE / ACTION / INFORMATION

CATEGORY: QUALITY & SAFETY

Title: Publication of the Quality and Safety Framework

Date of Expiry / Review N/A

For Action by:
Chief Executives
All NHS Health and Care Staff

Action required by:
Local action to improve the quality and safety of patient care to link with the National Programme and meet the requirement of the Duty of Quality coming into force in April 2023.

Sender: Professor Chris Jones, Deputy Chief Medical Officer

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Enclosure(s): Letter from Prof Chris Jones

Professor Chris Jones
Dirprwy Brif Swyddog Meddygol
Deputy Chief Medical Officer



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Welsh Government

Chief Executive Officers, LHBs and NHS Trusts
All Health and Care Staff, LHBs and NHS Trusts

17 September 2021

Dear Colleagues

A Healthier Wales was published in 2018 and set out the ten-year vision for health and social care in Wales, with quality and safety of care the primary focus in the provision of healthcare across Wales. The *Quality and Safety Framework* now published will be a key driver to ensure quality and safety is firmly placed at the heart of NHS healthcare provision, from community care right through to acute services.

This *Quality and Safety Framework* requires services to be built on the foundations of a robust quality management system, which continuously connects quality assurance, planning and improvement. The COVID-19 pandemic presents the NHS with a far greater challenge to adapt and improve services already significantly altered during the height of the pandemic, while remaining focused on meeting the quadruple aim within *A Healthier Wales*.

It sets the direction for implementation of the *Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Act*, with particular emphasis on the duties of quality and candour, which come into force from April 2023. The Framework facilitates organisations' preparedness for the Act.

Can you please share this Framework, link attached below, with all health and care staff within your organisations and continue to embed the ethos of good quality, safe care above all else.

<https://gov.wales/nhs-quality-and-safety-framework>

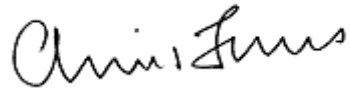


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Further information will be shared about the National Programme and what this will mean in practice once the purpose, function and membership of the Quality and Safety Programme Board has been worked through in more detail.

Yours sincerely



PROFESSOR CHRIS JONES



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